Comment on Docket 17-208

I write in opposition of any reversal of the Open Internet Order of 2015.

The Internet is quite possibly the most revolutionary thing that will happen within our lifetimes. It has almost fundamentally changed the way we do business, socialize and even learn about the world around us.

Apart from the Internet's self healing properties (due to its original purpose as a defense computer network), its most extraordinary attribute is its equal treatment of data packets. This has put all traffic on an equal footing, reducing the barrier to entry for service providers on the Internet, which is essential to innovation. It has led to kids in a basement coming to market with some extraordinary ideas, such as Facebook (which has revolutionized the very way that we interact) and the cloud (which has put our data at our fingertips and made it accessible anywhere in the world).

It is quite puzzling that anyone would willingly tamper with a recipe for such success, by introducing discrimination for or against any Internet traffic. Allowing such discrimination would create two or more classes of service providers on the Internet, essentially letting broadband providers decide which services succeed or fail, instead of the marketplace (as currently happens).

The common argument against net neutrality, that it hampers innovation, makes sense only to one who has not paid attention to the Internet and the amazing things that it has spawned.

The Internet is a revolutionary force which has changed the lives of those with access to it. No good can come from allowing Internet service providers to arbitrarily decide who may provide services on it, and with what quality.